

2 April 1987

MBK-7008

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau -- March 1987

I. GENERAL

1. Many countries in the Bureau's coverage area were somewhat disappointed over the trip by Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze to Southeast Asia and Australia during the first half of the month. Hopes had been expressed that pressure would be brought to bear on Vietnam to move toward a solution to the problem of the Vietnamese troop presence in Cambodia and the problem of Cambodia's future in general. That does not seem to have taken place; in fact, the indications are that the USSR is continuing to support Vietnam and is not willing to jeopardize its assets in this part of the world at this time.

2. It was announced at the end of the month that Ambassador Brown would be returning to Washington for some weeks to play a key role in the State Department's investigation into the extent of the security compromise at the Moscow Embassy resulting from the Marine Security Guard Detachment problems there. Ambassador Brown formerly served as a political officer in Moscow.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. March was travel month on the diplomatic circuit in Southeast Asia. In addition to the Soviet foreign minister's visit, which took in six countries between 2 and 13 March, the East German foreign minister visited countries in the Bureau's coverage area during the same time period. Then from 9-18 March, Romanian leader Ceausescu visited South Asian countries along with Burma and Nepal. The British defense secretary visited Thailand and Brunei at the end of the month. The Bureau also covered Thai media reports on the visit of the Thai crown prince to the PRC and the Thai Prime Minister's visit to Cairo and a number of countries in Europe. These and other visits by lesser representatives contributed to an above average publishable wordage figure for the month.

2. In addition to the heavy coverage monitored from traditional media in connection with the Shevardnadze visit to Southeast Asia, the bureau also concentrated on three different satellites -- the 63 East Intelsat, 108 East Palapa, and 80 East Soviet satellite -- at various times during the trip. Several VSL's were filed on Shevardnadze's activities as well as two on the East German foreign minister's visit to Vietnam. As often happens when the ROSET antennas are pulled away from regular coverage to concentrate on ad hoc events, the monthly publishable wordage from ROSET sources falls. We trust this is offset by the video.

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The Bureau received a commendation from the Chief of Analysis Group in connection with the handling of the Soviet foreign minister's tour, which he called "exemplary."

3. The Bureau gave careful attention to Vietnamese media during the month as preparations intensify for the coming National Assembly elections. Hanoi media began broadcasting the lists of candidates during the latter part of the month, and the Bureau is filing editorial reports noting the more important individuals.

4. On the 6th, the Vietnamese papers began arriving again through the Bureau's local arrangement following an interruption that lasted 7 weeks despite the best efforts of our local supplier. Although the back issues were received, NEAD had picked up significant coverage during that period, and Hong Kong Bureau had sent Bangkok some issues of NHAN DAN they were able to find. Hong Kong has reinstituted a back-up subscription to the two Vietnamese papers on Bangkok's behalf to guard against a recurrence of this problem.

5. Following a thorough look at the Cambodian monitors' workload by the Bureau and a committee at headquarters, Bangkok instituted changes set forth by the committee. After observing the effects for several weeks, the Bureau determined the changes are saving the Cambodian Unit 3 hours per week.

B. Cruising

A Palapa B-2 communications satellite was put into orbit for Indonesia during the month. The satellite cruising officer has found what appears to be the new satellite at 113 East. Indonesian radio reports state the new satellite, which is currently undergoing testing, should be operational on 9 April. The Bureau's cruising officer is making daily observations, and an assessment of coverage potential will be made when the satellite is put into service.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. On 8 March South Asian Senior Monitor [] became the father of a son -- [] Mother and child are both doing well.

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2. Bureau Chief [] departed for the bureau chiefs conference on 19 March.

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3. Effective 29 March Bureau technician [] was promoted to FBN 6. During the month approval was received for the promotion of contract administrative clerk [] to the equivalent of FBN 5. The promotion will become effective at the renewal of her contract on 7 April.

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B. Building and Grounds

Renovation of the editorial room to prepare for the introduction of computerization later this summer was completed. Work on enlarging the typewriter wells in the monitors' booths to permit installation of computers throughout is progressing well and should be completed by the end of the first week in April.

IV. VISITS

A. Paul Strassman and Jackie Eubanks, Embassy representatives of the Defense Attache's Technical and Liaison office, visited on 13 March for discussions with the deputy chief on FBIS services.

B. Michael Eiland, Embassy officer, visited the Bureau on the 16th for a briefing and tour.

C. Islamabad Unit Chief [redacted] spent 18-30 March at the Bureau on TDY for satellite cruising training. [redacted] was accompanied by his wife.

D. On the 27th, [redacted] Okinawa Bureau administrative officer, visited the Bureau while in Bangkok to attend a conference.

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The bureau chief spoke at the Embassy orientation for newcomers on 12 March. Attending the 1 and 1/2 day orientation from FBIS were [redacted]

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Acting Chief
Bangkok Bureau

Attachment: Monthly Production Report
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BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR MARCH 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	825,120
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	255,620
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,755

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	21,660 min.	28,890 min.	266.00 issues
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ROSET SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)			

INDIA

Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English	3,220		
Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in Hindi	160		

INDONESIA

Jakarta TVRI Television Network in Indonesian	1,830		
Jakarta ANTARA in English		760	

LAOS

Vientiane Television Feed in Russian to Moscow	710		
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MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay	720		
Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English		4,980	

PHILIPPINES

Manila PNA in English		560	
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SRI LANKA

Colombo Lanka Puwath in English		7,860	
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	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>VIETNAM</u>			
Hanoi Television Feed in Vietnamese to Ho Chi Minh City	680		
IV. <u>OUTPUT FROM ALL OTHER SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)			
<u>AUSTRALIA</u>			
Melbourne Overseas Service in English	28,470		
Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English			470
Sydney THE BULLETIN in English			0
Sydney THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English			0
<u>BANGLADESH</u>			
Dhaka Overseas Service in English	890		
Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali	0		
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	6,580		
Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali	670		
Dhaka BSS in English		200	
Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English			720
Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali			680
<u>BRUNEI</u>			
Kuala Belait THE BORNEO BULLETIN in English			0
<u>BURMA</u>			
Rangoon Domestic Service in English	0		
Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	17,690		
Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English			160
Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese			0
Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese			0
Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese			0

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>CAMBODIA</u>			
Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	25,170		
Phnom Penh SPK in English		15,400	
Phnom Penh SPK in French to KPL Vientiane		0	
Phnom Penh SPK in French		5,510	
Phnom Penh VNA in Vietnamese to VNA Hanoi		0	
Phnom Penh VNA in French to VNA Hanoi		0	
<u>CHINA</u>			
Beijing International Service in Bengali	370		
Beijing International Service in Burmese	0		
Beijing International Service in Indonesian	0		
Beijing International Service in Lao	0		
Beijing International Service in Thai	0		
Beijing in Cambodian to Cambodia	260		
Beijing in Hindi to India	0		
Beijing in Malay to Malaysia	0		
Beijing in Urdu to India and Pakistan	800		
<u>CLANDESTINE</u>			
(Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in English	0		
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	17,170		
(Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay	2,550		
(Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian	13,850		
(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	9,490		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese	3,330		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay	0		
(Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil	1,440		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>HONG KONG</u>			
Hong Kong AFP in English		78,550	
<u>INDIA</u>			
Delhi General Overseas Service in English	6,320		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	45,600		
Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English	3,220		
Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi	0		
Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in Hindi	160		
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English		1,450	
Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English			0
Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English			730
Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English			12,230
Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English			0
Delhi PATRIOT in English			3,760
Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English			4,830
Delhi THE HINDU in English			3,780
Delhi INDIA TODAY in English			0
Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali			0
<u>INDONESIA</u>			
Jakarta International Service in English	4,020		
Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian	13,530		
Jakarta TVRI Television Network in Indonesian	1,830		
Jakarta ANTARA in English		760	
Jakarta JAKARTA POST in English			2,940
Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English			2,400
Jakarta BERITA BUANA in Indonesian			0
Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian			1,520
Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian			2,610

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>INDONESIA (continued)</u>			
Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian			0
JAKARTA SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian to INDONESIA			1,010
<u>LAOS</u>			
Vientiane Domestic Service in Laos	54,200		
Vientiane Television Feed in Russian to Moscow	710		
Vientiane KPL in English		21,100	
Vientiane KPL in English to SPK Phnom Penh		0	
Vientiane KPL in French to SPK Phnom Penh		0	
Vientiane SPK in French to SPK Phnom Penh		0	
Vientiane VNA in Vietnamese to VNA Hanoi		0	
Vientiane PASASON in Lao			0
Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao			0
<u>MALAYSIA</u>			
Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	4,840		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English	1,530		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay	1,770		
Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay	720		
Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English		4,980	
Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English			840
Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English			0
Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay			1,270
Kuala Lumpur BERITA MINGGU in Malay			0
Kuala Lumpur MINGGUAN MALAYSIA in Malay			0
Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay			0
<u>NEPAL</u>			
Katmandu External Service in English	1,660		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>NEPAL</u> (continued)			
Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English			720
<u>NEW ZEALAND</u>			
Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English			600
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Karachi Overseas Service in English	2,610		
Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu	0		
Karachi Domestic Service in English	7,660		
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	18,800		
Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English			12,010
Karachi DAWN in English			1,880
Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English			2,590
Karachi JASARAT in Urdu			0
Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu			0
Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu			0
Lahore Jang in Urdu			0
Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu			1,130
<u>PHILIPPINES</u>			
Manila PNA in English		560	
<u>SINGAPORE</u>			
Singapore Domestic Service in English	1,330		
Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English			3,750
Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English			1,120
<u>SRI LANKA</u>			
Colombo International Service in English	5,290		
Colombo International Service in Hindi	0		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>SRI LANKA (continued)</u>			
Colombo Domestic Service in English	190		
Colombo Domestic Service in Tamil	0		
Colombo Lanka Puwath in English		7,860	
Colombo DAILY NEWS in English			0
Colombo SUN in English			2,120
Colombo WEEKEND in English			1,010
<u>THAILAND</u>			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	3,110		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Cambodian	0		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Lao	0		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	5,520		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Vietnamese	0		
Bangkok Domestic Service in English	1,790		
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	8,960		
Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai	1,710		
Bangkok Television Service in Thai	2,150		
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English			48,000
Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English			10,780
Bangkok THE NATION in English			42,330
Bangkok KHAO PHISSET in Thai			1,800
Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai			0
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai			6,530
Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPDA in Thai			0
Bangkok NAED NA in Thai			3,650
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai			4,770
Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai			0
Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai			0

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>THAILAND</u> (continued)			
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai			3,500
Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese			560
Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese			0
Bangkok XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO in Chinese			240
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow International Service in Tamil	0		
Moscow in Bengali to Bangladesh	0		
Moscow in Burmese to Burma	0		
Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia	1,590		
Moscow in Hindi to India	1,050		
Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia	870		
Moscow in Lao to Laos	1,650		
Moscow in Thai to Thailand	0		
Moscow in Urdu to India	0		
Moscow in Urdu to Pakistan	0		
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Indonesian	0		
<u>UNITED KINGDOM</u>			
London BBC World Service in English	950		
<u>VIETNAM</u> ,			
Hanoi International Service in English	11,530		
Hanoi International Service in Cambodian	0		
Hanoi International Service in Thai	380		
Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese	118,190		
Hanoi Television Feed in Vietnamese to Ho Chi Minh City	680		
Hanoi VNA in English		2,860	
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			23,880

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>VIETNAM</u> (continued)			
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			8,120
Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese			0
Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			0